

# THE BLACK WIDDER

GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY®

024



**MARVEL**

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GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

# THE BLACK VORTEX

## CHAPTER TWO

### PREVIOUSLY IN THE BLACK VORTEX...

Billions of years ago, an ancient race named the Viscardi were gifted an object of immense cosmic power by a Celestial. This artifact, known as the Black Vortex, transforms the user, imbuing them with cosmic energy. However, the power of this object caused the Viscardi to turn on each other, annihilating their own race from within.

In the present day, Peter Quill has been hounded by a mysterious villain named Mister Knife. Upon being captured by Knife, Peter discovered him to actually be his father, J-Son, the deposed Emperor of Spartax. With the help of Kitty Pryde, Peter escaped Knife's clutches. Seeking revenge, Peter and Kitty returned to Knife's fortress. However, while spying on Mister Knife's conversations, they discovered that he had recovered the Black Vortex and watched as he used it to enhance his henchmen, christening them, in their new forms, as the Slaughter Lords. Not willing to leave such power in the hands of his father, Peter stole the Black Vortex. In need of help, Peter and Kitty summoned the Guardians of the Galaxy and members of the X-Men. But while they argued over what to do with the object, the Slaughter Lords arrived and began to lay waste to the heroes. Seeking to save her friends, Gamora took matters into her own hands and submitted to the power of the Black Vortex.

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THAT IS  
GAMORA.

NO LAST  
NAME, NO  
NEED.

EVERYONE IN  
THE GALAXY  
KNOWS WHO  
SHE IS.

LIKE CHER.

OR MADONNA.

I SHOULD PROBABLY  
HAVE A MORE CURRENT  
EARTH REFERENCE.

I AM  
GROOT.

EMINEM? I NEED  
TO GET BACK  
TO EARTH MORE.

BUT YOU GET  
THE POINT.

EVERYONE IN THE GALAXY  
KNEW WHO SHE WAS BEFORE  
THE BLACK VORTEX  
TURNED HER INTO THIS.

...AND NOW?  
WOW.

WHAT ARE THEY  
GOING TO THINK  
OF HER NOW?

I HAVE  
THIS.

YEAH, YA  
THINK?







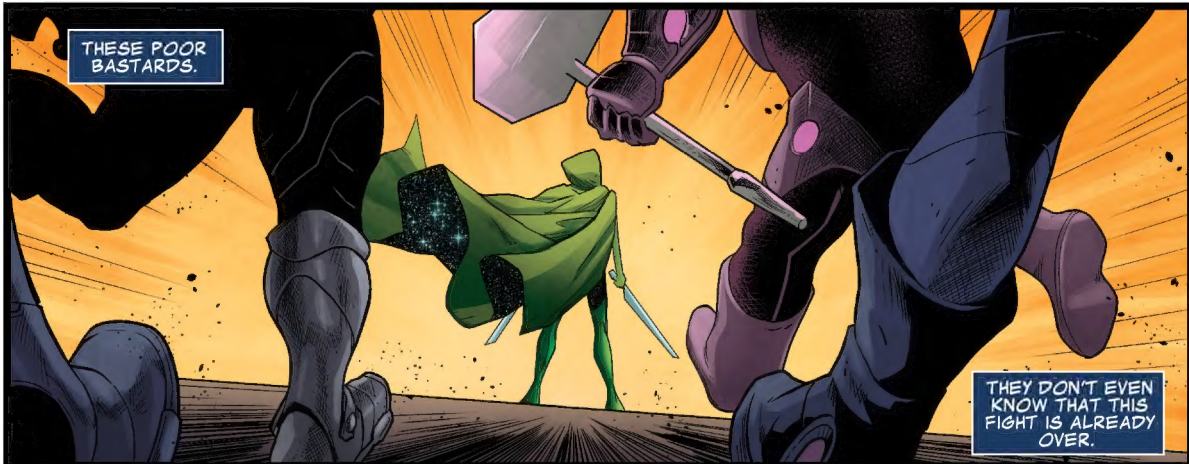
AT FIRST, YOU MIGHT BE THINKING: UH-OH, THESE SLAUGHTER LORDS LOOK LIKE THEY CAN'T WAIT TO KILL HER.

GOOD LORD IN HEAVEN, THEY WANT TO KILL HER SO MUCH.



WELL I'VE KNOWN GAMORA A LONG TIME, AND EVEN BEFORE SHE COSMICALLY BLEW UP, I KNOW THERE IS NOTHING ABOUT THIS FIGHT, THESE ODDS, AND ANY PART OF THIS, SHE DOESN'T LIVE FOR.

EVEN WITH THE X-MEN AND GUARDIANS BEHIND HER, SHE IS TOTALLY SURROUNDED AND SHE LOVES IT.

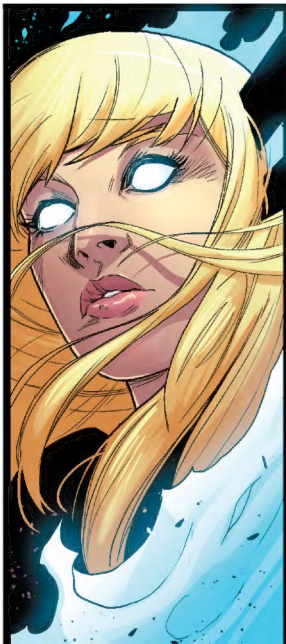


THESE POOR BASTARDS.

THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW THAT THIS FIGHT IS ALREADY OVER.











WOW.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

THIS IS SPARTAX'S MOON?

THEY SAY IT IS HAUNTED.

PLEASE DON'T SCARE THE CHILDREN, DRAX.

CHILDREN?

I MEANT BOBBY.

OH YEAH, SURE.



HOW DO WE DESTROY THIS IMMEDIATELY?

DESTROY IT? THIS IS TOO FASCINATING TO DESTROY.

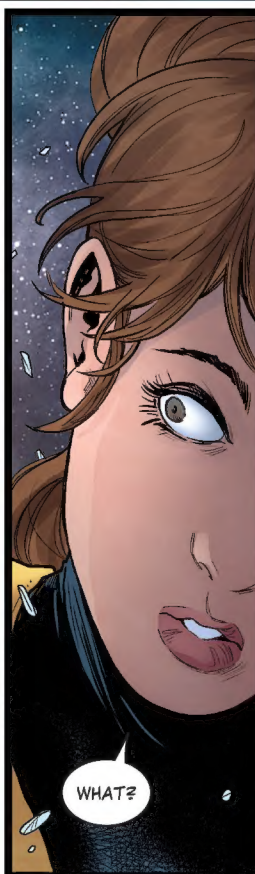
I COULD STUDY IT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

HOW "HANK MCCOY" OF YOU.

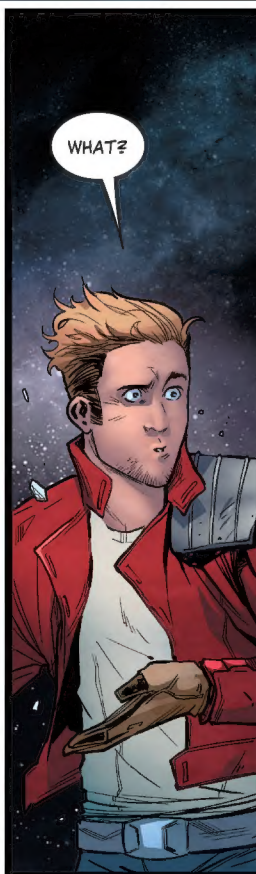
THANK YOU.



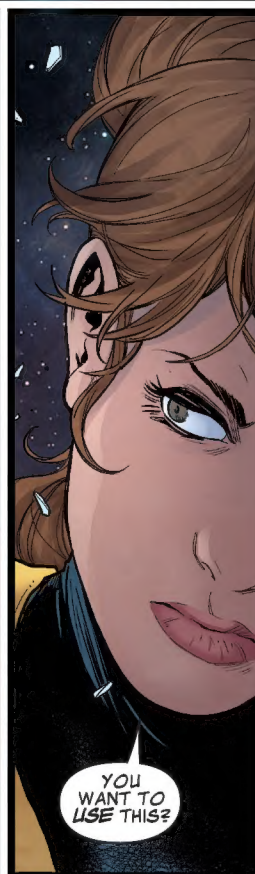
WE LINE UP AND WE ALL POWER THE HELL UP.



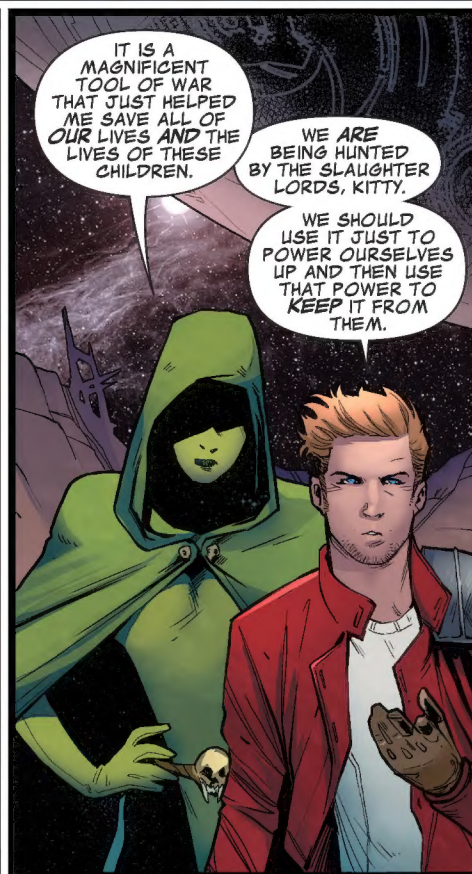
WHAT?



WHAT?



YOU WANT TO USE THIS?



IT IS A MAGNIFICENT TOOL OF WAR THAT JUST HELPED ME SAVE ALL OF OUR LIVES AND THE LIVES OF THESE CHILDREN.

WE ARE BEING HUNTED BY THE SLAUGHTER LORDS, KITTY.

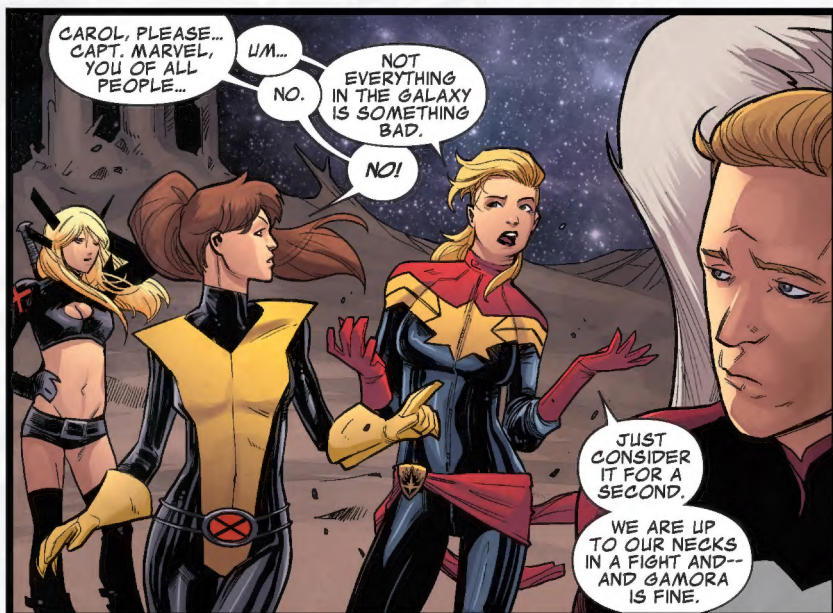
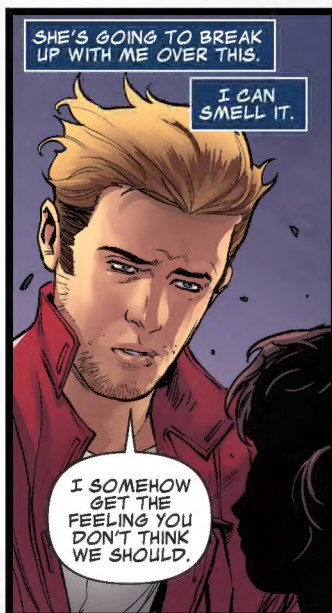
WE SHOULD USE IT JUST TO POWER OURSELVES UP AND THEN USE THAT POWER TO KEEP IT FROM THEM.



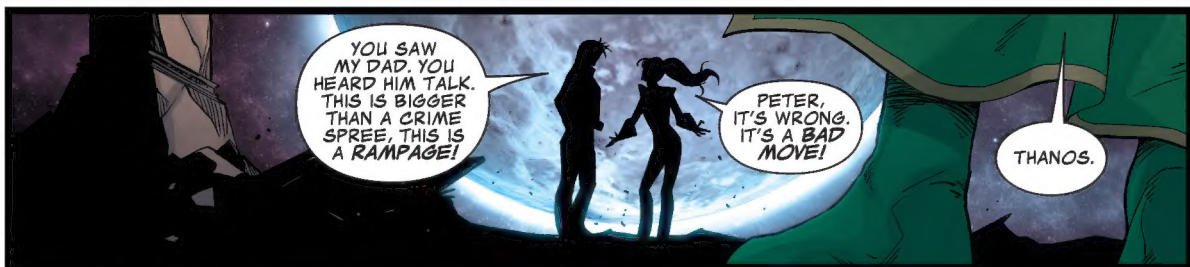
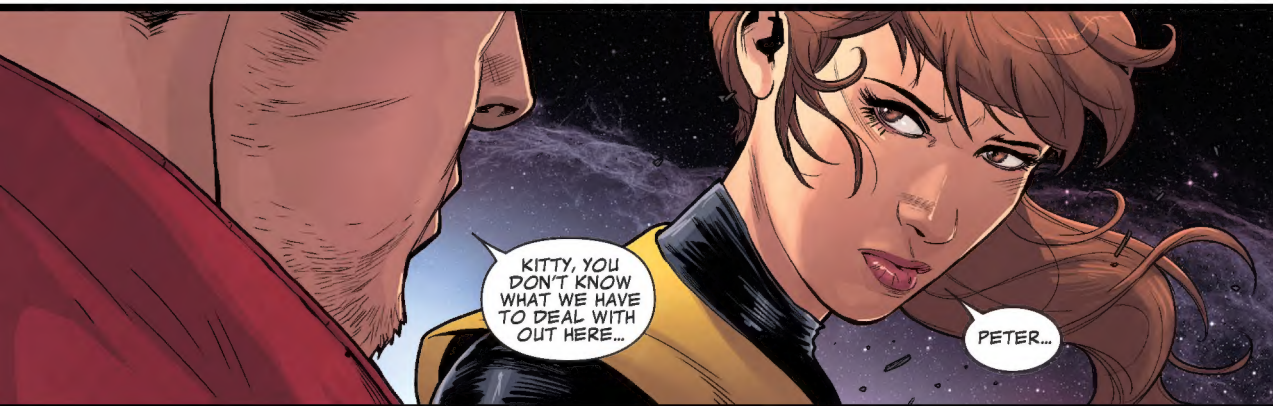
YOU WANT TO USE THIS?

YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO USE THIS ON EACH OTHER?













I FINALLY  
HAVE THE POWER  
TO END HIS REIGN  
OF TERROR.

WHAT  
IS MORE  
IMPORTANT  
THAN THAT?



YEAH, SO  
DON'T BE SO  
FAST TO THROW  
OUT A GOOD  
THING.

I THOUGHT  
YOU WERE A  
DIFFERENT  
GUY.

I REALLY  
DID.

WHAT  
DOES THAT  
MEAN?



THESE ARE  
THE MOMENTS.  
THIS IS WHEN YOU  
REVEAL WHO  
YOU ARE.

I  
KNOW.

YOU  
TOO,  
BY THE  
WAY.

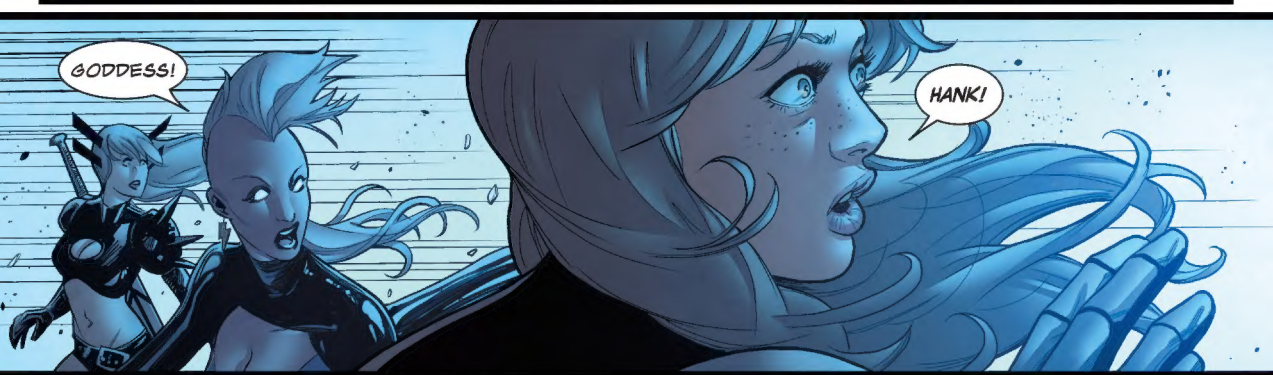
WHAT  
DOES THAT  
MEAN?

IT MEANS  
OUT HERE TRUST  
THAT MAYBE WE  
KNOW A LITTLE BIT  
MORE ABOUT HOW  
THE GALAXY WORKS  
THAN YOU DO.

OH,  
REALLY?

KITTY,  
TRUST THAT  
I KNOW A LITTLE  
SOMETHING ABOUT...

AAGGHH!



GODDESS!

HANK!





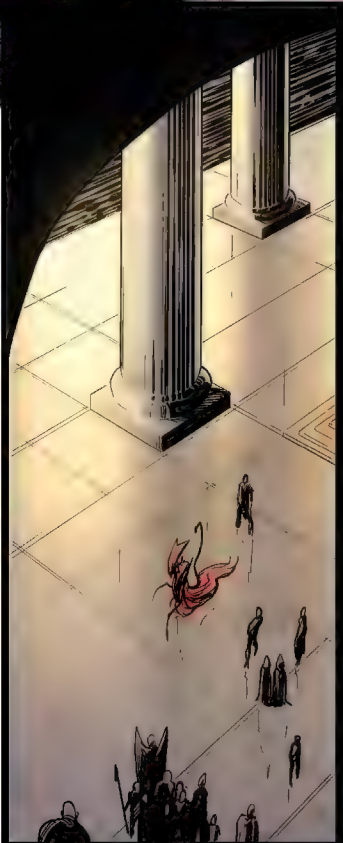
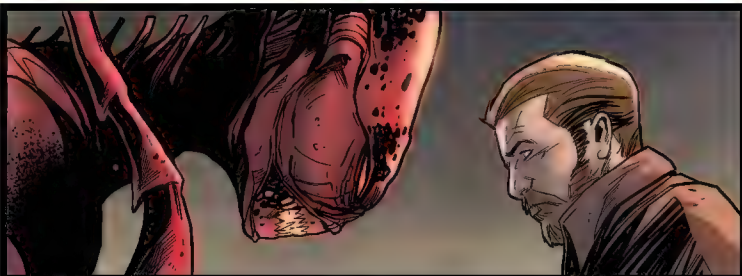
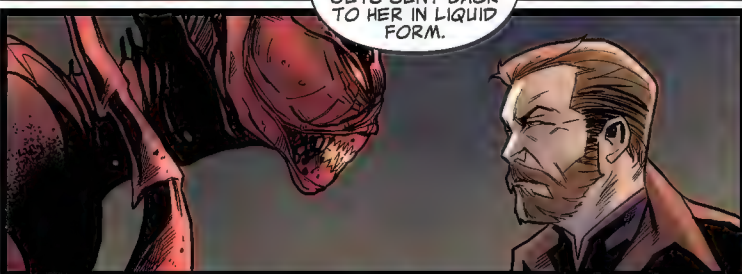
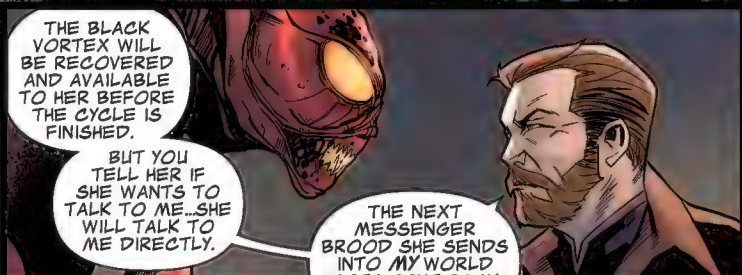
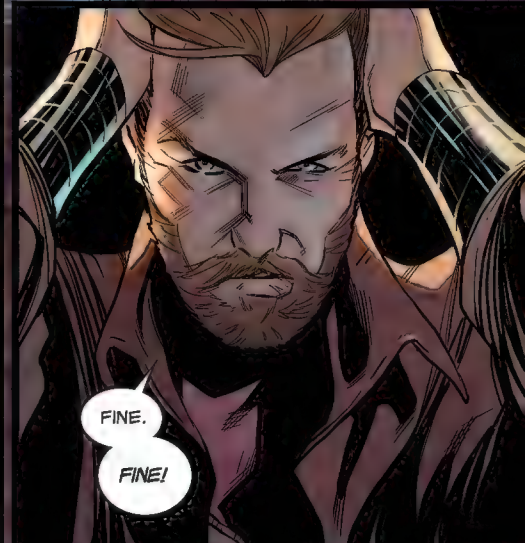
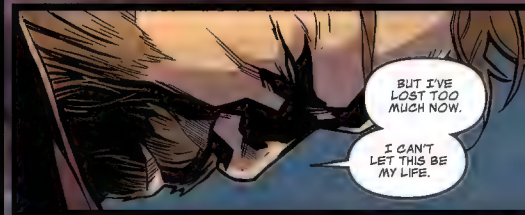
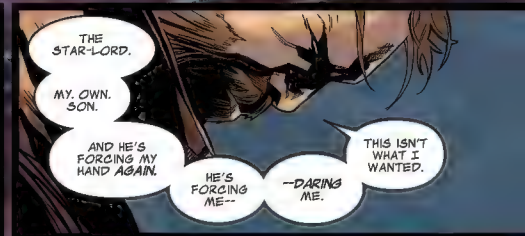
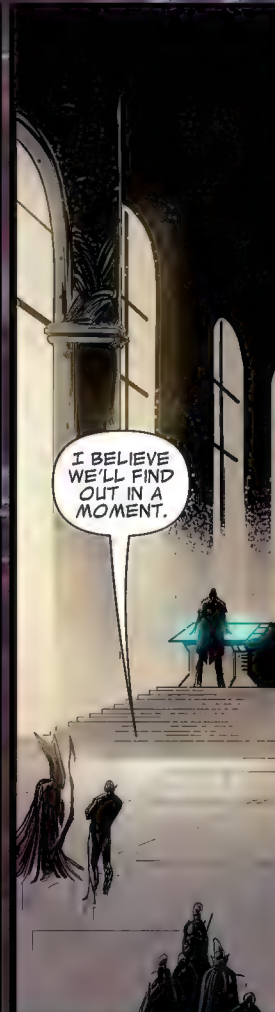
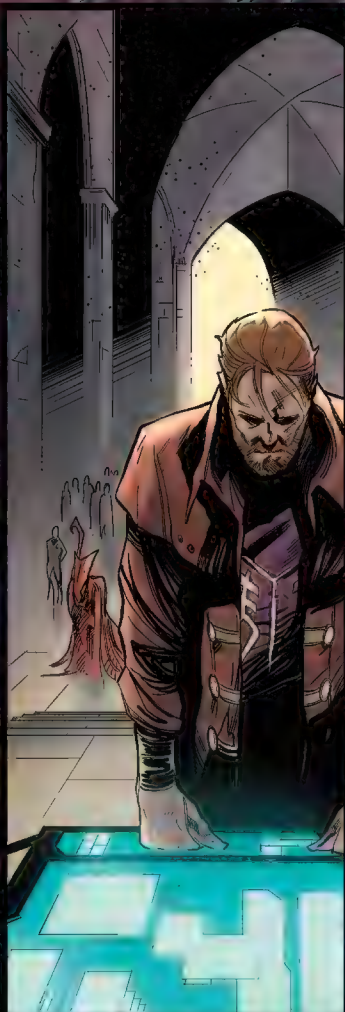
OH.

MY.

STARS.



MISTER KNIFE'S FLYING Fortress.







YOU HEARD ME.  
WE ARE BUILDING SOMETHING HERE.  
SOMETHING TO FEAR. SOMETHING OF MATTER.  
OF IMPORT.



WE ARE CHANGING THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE GALAXY AND THAT IS SOMETHING THIS GALAXY DESPERATELY NEEDS.  
AND HE, THAT MAN, WITH EVERY STEP FORWARD IS REVEALING THAT HE IS NOT THE MAN TO TAKE US THERE.  
SO WE KILL HIM?



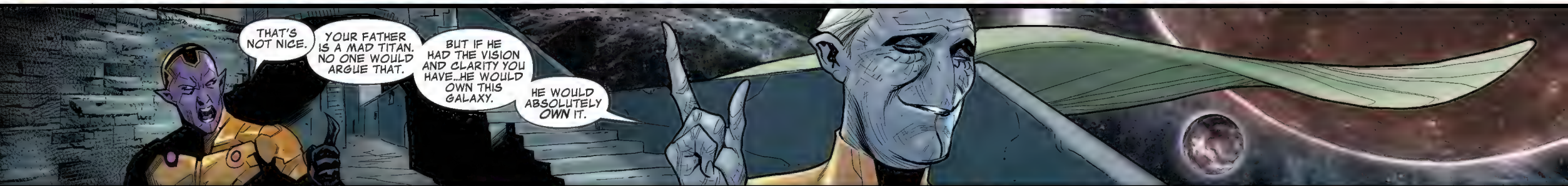
AT THIS POINT...YOU'D BE PUTTING HIM OUT OF HIS MISERY.



WHY DON'T YOU DO IT THEN?  
THAT'S NOT MY WAY.  
YOU JUST PLOT.  
I KNOW MY ROLE AND AN IDIOT CHILD CAN SEE YOURS.



YOU ARE A WARRIOR PRINCE. YOU WERE BORN FOR THIS.  
YOUR FATHER, THANOS, IS PULSATING WITHIN YOU.



THAT'S NOT NICE.  
YOUR FATHER IS A MAD TITAN. NO ONE WOULD ARGUE THAT.  
BUT IF HE HAD THE VISION AND CLARITY YOU HAVE...HE WOULD OWN THIS GALAXY.  
HE WOULD ABSOLUTELY OWN IT.



THANE... YOU HAVE ALL OF YOUR FATHER'S STRENGTH OF SPIRIT AND NONE OF HIS DEFECTS.  
YOU...CAN LEAD.



GO BACK TO WHEREVER YOU DISAPPEAR TO.  
YOU WILL NOT SPEAK THESE WORDS TO ME AGAIN.

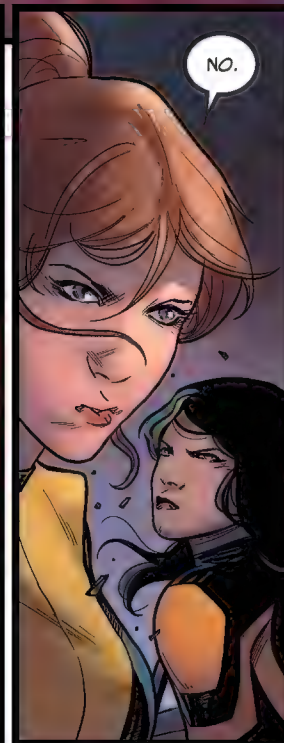
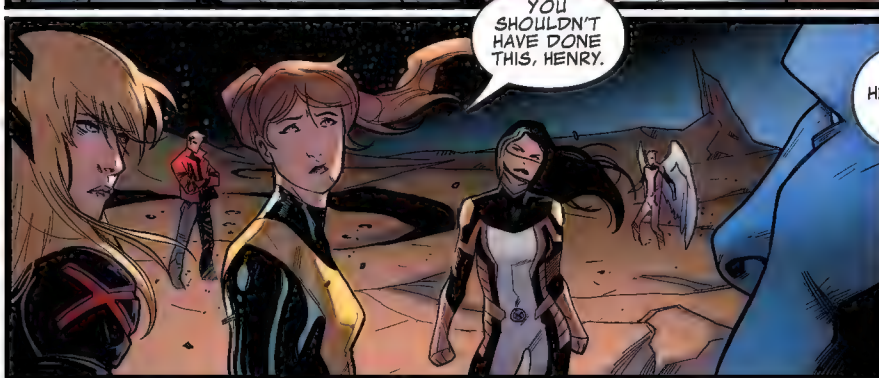


YES, I WILL.



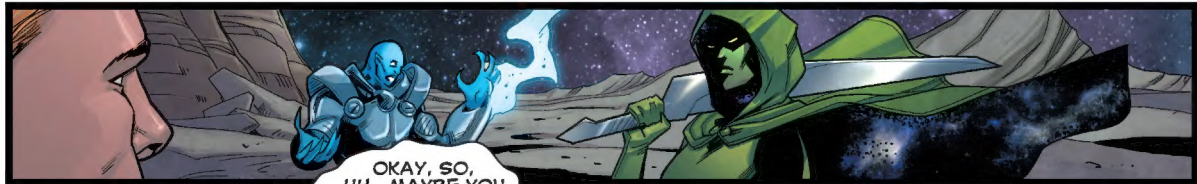


I...  
...I SEE EVERYTHING.





**NO!**



OKAY, SO,  
UH...MAYBE YOU  
WERE ALL RIGHT  
ABOUT THE WHOLE,  
WELL, YOU  
KNOW.

I AM  
GROOT.

GAMORA,  
COME ON  
NOW...



WHAT IS  
THAT?





MADE IT.

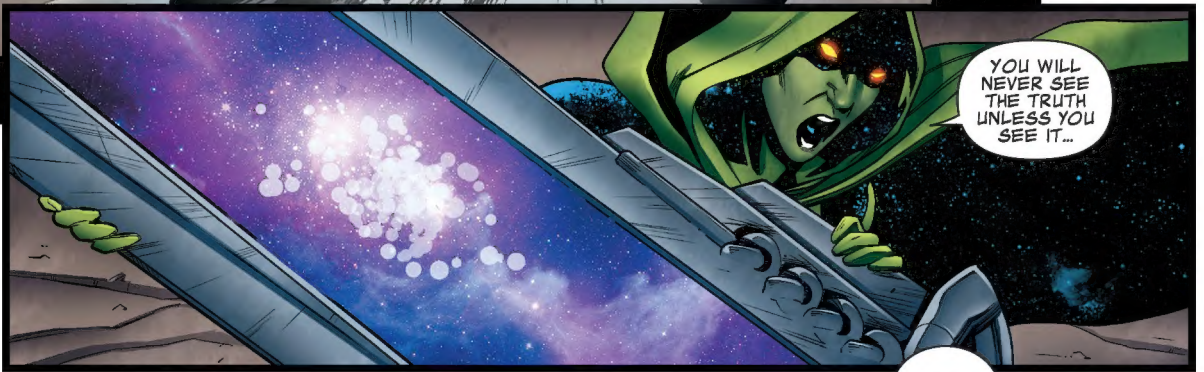
NOVA  
REPORTING  
FOR DUTY!

QUILL,  
NEXT  
TIME YOU  
BROADCAST  
A BIG CRY  
FOR--

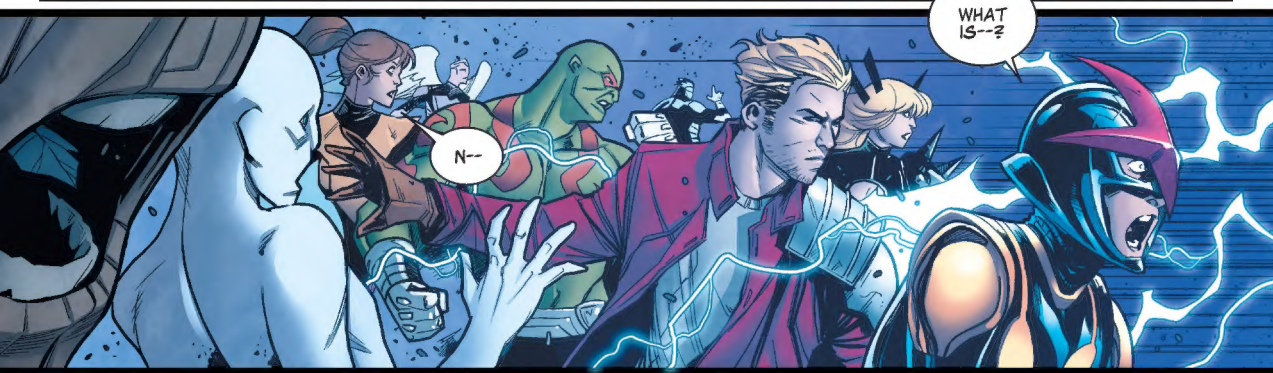
AR



OH, LH,  
WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
EXACTLY?



YOU WILL  
NEVER SEE  
THE TRUTH  
UNLESS YOU  
SEE IT...



WHAT  
IS--?

N--





THE BLACK VORTEX CONTINUES IN...  
LEGENDARY STAR-LORD #9!



GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

# THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 2

FOLLOW THE SAGA OF THE BLACK VORTEX IN  
**LEGENDARY STAR-LORD #9**



ON-SALE  
**FEBRUARY**

~~THE BLACK  
VORTEX ALPHA #1~~

GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY #24

LEGENDARY  
STAR-LORD #9

ALL-NEW  
X-MEN #38

ON-SALE  
**MARCH**

ALL-NEW  
X-MEN #39

GUARDIANS  
TEAM-UP #3

GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY #25

NOVA #28

LEGENDARY  
STAR-LORD #10

ON-SALE  
**APRIL**

CYCLOPS #12

CAPTAIN  
MARVEL #14

LEGENDARY  
STAR-LORD #11

THE BLACK VORTEX  
OMEGA #1